



# Update

July 23, 2019

## **Frustrated over new STEM certification requirements, lack of Special Education support, or other decisions made in Olympia?**

As a parting gift to our membership, outgoing WEA President Kim Mead strongly encouraged Senator Wellman, Chair of the Senate Early Learning and K-12 Committee to conduct a listening session with WEA members this summer. Senator Wellman enthusiastically agreed. This your chance to be heard. The conversation will be between our members and Senator Wellman. WEA legislative staff will be there to listen and learn as well.

### **Location, Date, and Tentative Time:**

**Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 11:15-12:15ish**

**ESD 121 - 800 Oakesdale Ave. SW Renton, WA 98057**

### **Topics:**

**Five Primary Topics: Special Education, Career Connected Learning, Graduation Requirements, Technology and Equity Issues**

- **SPECIAL EDUCATION:**
  - If funding wasn't a barrier, what additional tools or supports would help you better serve special education students?
  - What specific support will you need in a general education classroom in order to successfully increase the inclusion of special education students?
  - What support does your school district need to help special education students be placed in the least restrict environment?



- **CAREER CONNECTED LEARNING:**
  - What should our next steps be in order to give educators the tools they need to help integrate every student's learning experiences with work-related skills, career awareness, preparation and exploration?
  - And related to this, what are your schools currently doing with computer science and technology access, and what more can the Legislature do to support this?
  
- **NEW GRADUATION PATHWAYS:**
  - What are your initial thoughts on how these new graduation options will work in your school? Do you anticipate barriers for implementation? If so, what additional supports may be needed to help students successfully navigate the pathways?
  - Are there other pathways that should be included?
  - What else can be done to make the high school and beyond plan more meaningful?
  - Are there other state policy changes that you would recommend around graduation requirements?
  
- **TECHNOLOGY:**
  - Do you have access to the technology in your classroom that you need to be successful? Have you had access to professional development or necessary training to feel comfortable with the technology you have access to?
  - What else can the state do to help you increase technology use in a meaningful way into your classroom? Are there best practices that you have seen that should be expanded statewide?
  
- **EQUITY:**
  - What are the major equity issues you would like to see addressed next session, and what statewide policies and supports are needed to address those equity issues?
  - Are there other things that we, as legislators, need to know and understand about your school and students in order to meet the needs of all the students in your building?

Summer is upon us - NEA RA, summer school, graduate classes, and family/personal time. If you can find the time in your busy summer schedule, please consider attending. Also, if you can't make this session, you can contact [Hilary Hunt](#) at the WEA. Hilary will set you up with a "NEA360" account giving you access to the listening tour message board.

Give me a call at 425.765.0555 if you have questions or would like to carpool to this event.

## **For Sale**

**Loveseat and Couch:** Leather Recliner one loveseat (2 recliners) and one couch (3 seater with 2 recliners), brown color. Both \$399, Text for pictures. Raman Rekhi (760)224-6443.

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